GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1668
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2016
Blackbucks
Solanki Dr. Kirit Premjibhai

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the number/population of Blackbucks in the country, State-wise;
(b) whether the population of Blackbucks has decreased over the years and if so, the reasons therefor;
(c) whether the Government has taken/proposes to take steps for the conservation of this endangered species and if so, the details thereof; and
(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a)&(b) Black buck (Antilope cervicapra) occurs in large number in areas outside forests in several parts of the country. Due to its attractive appearance, it is adored by the society and, therefore, thrives in grasslands and agricultural field in rural areas. Population estimates of this species are not available but it is considered abundant due to the societal protection available to it.

(c)&(d) The Government has taken following steps for conservation of endangered species including blackbuck in the country:
i. Blackbuck has been included in Schedule-I of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 thereby according them the highest degree of protection against hunting.

ii. Stringent punishments have been provided in the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 for violation of provision of the Act.

iii. Protected Areas, viz., National Parks, Sanctuaries, Conservation Reserves and Community Reserves covering important wildlife habitats have been created all over the country under the provisions of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 to conserve wild animals including Black bucks and their habitats.

iv. Financial and technical assistance is provided to the State/ Union Territory Governments under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of 'Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats'', 'Project Tiger' and 'Project Elephant' for providing better protection to wildlife, and improvement of its habitat.

v. The Wildlife Crime Control Bureau has been set up to ensure co-ordination among various officers and State Governments in connection with the enforcement of law for control of poaching and illegal trade in wildlife and its products.

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